

PRINCETON REFUGE

HABITAT REHABILITATION AND ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

Pool 14
Upper Mississippi River Miles
504.0 - 506.4

Scott County, Iowa
Rock Island District



RESOURCE PROBLEM:

An extensive portion of the marsh is presently occupied by heavy emergent vegetative growth. Woody growth is encroaching extensively around the perimeter of existing wetlands. Siltation from Wapsipinicon and Mississippi River flood events exacerbate vegetative encroachment into the marsh habitat. The potential for levee breaching and a subsequent loss of management capability is high.

PROJECT FEATURES:

- * Remove approximately 24 inches of soil in three areas to create marshland - excavated material to be used to restore existing perimeter levee;
- * Construct low level cross dike and water control structures - relocate existing pump to create a 2-cell wetland management unit configuration; and
- * Plant mast trees.

PROJECT OUTPUTS:

The open water, interspersed with heavy emergent vegetation, will provide important habitat for migrating and nesting waterfowl, wading birds, furbearers, and other wetland-dwelling species. Material placed on the levee will allow more reliable water level control, both by limiting overtopping events and, more importantly, preventing further stability failure

from scouring. Relocation of an existing pumping plant will allow for maintenance of optimum water levels in the constructed cells and will provide for control of woody growth encroachment. The mast tree plantings will provide food resources for multiple migratory and resident species and increase overall habitat diversity.

FINANCIAL DATA:

General design costs are estimated at \$744,000, and construction costs are estimated at \$3,014,000. In accordance with Section 906(e) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-662), general design and construction costs will be shared on a 75% Federal/25% non-Federal basis for features located on State-owned lands. The non-Federal sponsor, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, will be responsible for annual operation, maintenance, and repair costs, estimated at \$26,600.

STATUS:

The main construction contract was awarded in September 1996 and completed in FY 99. The dedication ceremony was held in November 1999.